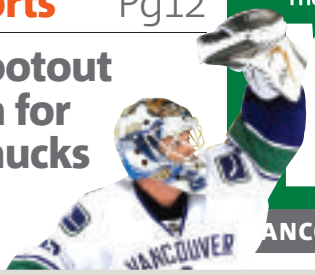
Sports Pg12

Shootout win for Canucks



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ANCOUVER • TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

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'Just ignore' Tory attacks: Dion's wife

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The mud, tar and occasional puffin poop slung during a federal election can be rough on a politician's family, the wife of Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion said yesterday.

"It was painful at the beginning," said Janine Krieber, Dion's wife, in Vancouver yesterday.

"I don't think you get used to that. You just ignore it. You have to ignore that. Just to do your life."

Krieber, 53, a professor of international relations and strategic studies at the Royal Military College of Canada, got her first taste of mud in the political cartoons following the 1995 sovereignty referendum.

In 1996, Dion was recruited by prime minister Jean Chrétien to promote federalism in Quebec.

Krieber said the attacks and negative personal campaigning are common among families of people seeking public office.

"I work with partners of Members of Parliament and each of them has a story about how ill treated their spouse has been during an election."

Among the current (non-puffin) attacks is a suggestion that Dion is a weak leader.

"It's totally untrue," Krieber said. "It's totally an invented character.

"The worst thing is that it sticks. When you repeat, and repeat and repeat lies and lies and lies it seems to become true. I hate that. … There's just no respect for the intelligence of the average Canadian."

Election 2008

RAFE ARNOTT

"There's just no respect for the intelligence of the average Canadian."
Janine Krieber

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B.C. Fashion Week

Springing ahead

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Models wear Jacqueline Conoir dresses at the gala opening of B.C. Fashion Week for Spring 2009 at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Gardens in Chinatown last night. Story, page 3.

Hit-and-run driver abandons SUV

FATALITY Police spoke yesterday with the registered owner of a 2001 Ford Explorer involved in a fatal hit-and-run and are now looking for the driver.

Witnesses say that the blue SUV, driven by a woman wearing a purple and black dress, was speeding when it ran a red light at North Grandview and Commercial Drive at about 7:20 p.m. on Sunday.

The vehicle hit a 64-year-old Vancouver man and his 67-year-old wife as they crossed at a green light. The man later died in hospital. The woman suffered broken bones.

Before hitting the couple, the driver clipped a cyclist, a 29-year-old Vancouver woman, who was not seriously injured.

By the time police arrived 11 minutes later, the driver described as between 20 to 25 years old, five-foot-two-inches, 140 pounds with long dark hair had walked away from the scene.

"We're asking her to do the right thing and come forward," said Const. Tim Fanning.

MARIA COOTAUCO/ FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Election 2008 pg 7

- **Lawrence Martin's National Report**
- **Check out Vancouver Central riding**

Health pg 13

Sex, politics and monkeys

Vancouver Symphony recording 100 anthems for Olympics

2010 OLYMPICS Out of 100 national anthems being recorded in Surrey this week for the 2010 Olympic Games, O Canada is the greatest, says the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra's conductor.

"It's really just a very stirring tune," maestro Bramwell Tovey said yesterday while the 73-piece orchestra took a break from recording the anthems at the Bell Performing Arts Centre.

"We love the tune, we love the orchestration, we love playing it."

Tovey said the recordings will be played when athletes win gold.

"They're all uplifting in a way, but some of them are extraordinary," he said, noting the Brazilian and El Salvadoran anthems.

He added that it's a challenge choosing the right version of each song.

"We're trying to dig and discover the most emotional core of each one … It's a constant series of judgments," Tovey added. "I feel a bit like a one-man United Nations."

KRISTEN THOMPSON/ METRO VANCOUVER

Record play

- The anthems will also be played at the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and to greet athletes as they arrive at the Olympic Village.

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Walking in a Whistler wonderland
Winter has come to Whistler this year before the official start of fall. Residents woke up yesterday morning to find six centimetres of snow on the ground. METRO VANCOUVER

Local

The love boat

B.C. couples lead the country in sex at sea while aboard cruise ships at 57 per cent, according to a survey released yesterday by Leger Marketing for tripharbour.ca. By comparison, 55 per cent of Ontario couples and only 22 per cent of Quebec couples have joined the 'naughty'-cal mile club. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Youth must know breast, pelvic exam rights, report says

MARIA COOTAUCO
for Metro Vancouver

Girls taken into youth custody centres – some as young as 12 years old – must understand their rights to decline a routine breast or pelvic exam, a recommendation by B.C.'s Representative for Children and Youth said yesterday.

While exams are not mandatory, standard practice at the facilities notes that they are an "integral part of the overall assessment."

The review comes more than a year after the non-profit organization Justice for Girls filed an allegation of inappropriate touching by a "creepy" doctor at the Burnaby Youth Custody Centre. A subsequent investigation found that there was no wrong-doing in the case.

"(The incident) highlighted that there were things we could do in terms of exchanging information with youth that were coming into custody," said Tom Christensen, Minister of Children and Family Development.

> **"There were things we could do in terms of exchanging information with youth.**
> Tom Christensen

While Justice for Girls is commending the ministry's efforts, the organization said the problem is far from being solved.

"If (the girls) are non-compliant, they think that might end up in their psychiatric report and that might be bad for their sentencing," said spokeswoman Asia Czapsk.

Fashion Week opens

RAFE ARNOTT / METRO VANCOUVER

The Jacqueline Conoir Spring 2009 show pulled out all the stops last night.

KIM ELBO
for Metro Vancouver

B.C. Fashion Week opened last night with a tribute to the '70s with boho chic dresses, pant jumpers, and cropped halter tops as designer RozeMerie Cuevas took her creations to the runway.

Cuevas' Jacqueline Conoir line had the crowd at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Gardens in Vancouver hallucinating with wonderful selections of psychedelic prints and patterns.

Cuevas combined bold prints and modern cuts and produced a stunning collection of dresses that were applauded by audience members as the models emerged.

In total, 60 looks sashayed down the runway . Cuervas displayed a mix of monochromatic boardroom basics, funky casual daywear and spectacular evening wear.

After the show there was a buzz from buyers and fans.

News in brief

BALLOON A broken fuel hose caused a fatal hot air balloon fire on Aug. 25, 2007, Global News reported yesterday. The Transportation Safety Board report on the crash is expected to be released this morning.

STABBING A 17-year-old girl will face a homicide-related charge in connection with the stabbing death of a 19-year-old man in Maple Ridge on Sunday.

MURDER A 36-year-old man, was charged yesterday with second-degree murder in relation to the death of a 24-year-old woman in Surrey on Sunday. The two knew each other by way of a previous relationship. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Read Allan Small as he breaks down last week's Wall Street drama

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Results of close vote to be revealed

Vision Vancouver will announce the results of its nomination recount today. Only 17 votes separated candidates Kashmir Dhaliwal and David Eby, and eight votes separated Kenneth Clement and Stepan Vdovine. METRO VANCOUVER

AIDS expert blasts Tories

JEFF HODSON
jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

The federal government's opposition to North America's only supervised injection site is tantamount to genocide, the president of the International AIDS society said yesterday in Vancouver.

Dr. Julio Montaner, speaking at the fifth anniversary of Insite, accused the Tories of promoting public health policy based on ideology, not science.

"When you neglect purposely a percentage of the population that can be defined on the basis of a particular characteristic — that's genocide. And I'll tell you that's exactly what they're doing," Montaner said.

"These people they have no morals and they're after this population because they want them gone."

Montaner said the issue should not be whether Insite survives, but when it will be expanded in Vancouver and the rest of the country.

Thomas Kerr, a director with the B.C. Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, said supervised injection sites could be expanded in the Downtown Eastside, the West End and Downtown South as well as New Westminster and Surrey.

"When science shows that something works we have an ethical obligation to make sure that an evidence-based public health program is available to all Canadians," Kerr said.

No fatalities

- Since its inception Insite has taken more than one million injections off the streets.
- No one has died at the facility despite 865 overdoses.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Dr. Julio Montaner, president of the International AIDS society, spoke yesterday at the Insite supervised injection site in the Downtown Eastside.

News in brief

SHOOTING A man and a woman were shot in Mission yesterday afternoon. The man died and the woman is in hospital with serious injuries. No motive has been released.

CORRECTION The website promoted by former Canucks' boss Pat Quinn last week is makingtheconnection.ca. The program aims to educate people about heart health and help identify steps to change their behaviour.

METRO VANCOUVER

Province defends raises for public executives

KRISTEN THOMPSON
kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

POLITICS The provincial government yesterday justified pay raises it has given to senior public service executives as necessary to keep and recruit staff in a coming decade of mass retirements.

Most assistant deputy ministers have been awarded a 21 per cent raise to $157,608 a year, according to a statement released by the office of the premier.

The average salary of a deputy minister has gone up more than seven per cent to nearly $218,000.

"In a tight labour market, compensation levels are one key factor in ensuring the B.C. public service is able to recruit and retain suitably qualified senior professionals," the statement said.

But Darryl Walker, president of the British Columbia Government And Service Employee's Union said addressing the shortage of childcare and social service workers should have been the priority.

Fat cash

- With the raises, both levels of executives could be the third-highest paid in Canada.
- The premier's deputy minister has turned down her $105,000 raise.

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Automotive Collision
Monday, Sept. 29, 10 - 11 a.m. – Collision Body Shop offered at our **Broadway campus**, 1155 East Broadway

TESOL Programs
Tuesday, Sept. 30, Noon - 1 p.m. – room 205B
Tuesday, Sept. 30, 4 - 5 p.m. – room 205B

Nursing Unit Clerk
Wednesday, Oct. 1, 5 p.m. – room 518

All sessions, except Auto Collision, are offered at our **Downtown campus**, 200-block Dunsmuir at Hamilton (two blocks west of Stadium SkyTrain station).

Mark your calendars: VCC hosts its next **Information Night** on Oct. 8, 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Downtown campus.

For more information visit **www.vcc.ca** or call our advising department at **604.443.8453**

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Police may have bought ticket for suspect in Greyhound stabbing

A man arrested for allegedly stabbing a Greyhound passenger on Sunday was put on the Ontario bus by police hours before the attack, passengers said yesterday. David Wayne Roberts, 28, of Manitouwadge, Ont., is in police custody following the stabbing. Wawa municipal police said it had helped a man obtain a bus ticket earlier Sunday. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Canada

Deserter can stay for now

U.S. army deserter Jeremy Hinzman and his family were granted a last-minute stay of deportation yesterday by a Federal Court judge while the court decides whether to hear their appeal. Hinzman, 39, his wife and two young children asked for the stay while the court decides whether to review a decision by Citizenship and Immigration officials not to let the family remain in Canada. CBC NEWS ONLINE

Economic meltdown hits home

Poll shows Canadians stressed about economy, but experts say to relax

JIM REYNO
jim.reyno@metronews.ca

It adds up, then it takes away. A few extra cents for bread, a little more for gas, higher insurance fees — all part of the ever-increasing cost of living.

But it's not really about cost of living, it's about quality of life. More money for the essentials means less for the fun stuff — vacations, dining out, lower-bowl seats at a concert.

All work and no play — you know the rest.

And Canadians are concerned, more concerned than ever given the financial meltdown in the U.S.

"Every five years, 10 years, there will be some circumstance ... and you'll panic and call me and think your world is coming to an end, as usual." Rhonda Sherwood

According to an exclusive worldwide Metro readers poll, 65 per cent of Canadians are worried about the cost of living. That makes us the third most stressed nation, behind Portugal (83 per cent) and the U.S. (82).

According to experts, the worry is warranted.

"A lot of what's happening on the world scale right now has really affected one's quality of living, and inflation is a huge part of that," said financial planner Rhonda Sherwood of ScotiaMcLeod in Vancouver. "So I do see that as a concern."

The cost of living is the biggest financial-crisis concern Canadians have, according to the poll. About 36 per cent are worried about their savings, ranking Canada fourth of the nine countries surveyed. We're fifth when it comes to concerns over job loss (16 per cent).

On the bright side, most respondents think their money is safe for now, but are monitoring the situation, placing Canada fourth (58 per cent). Thirty per cent of us have total confidence and plan to change nothing, putting us fifth.

As for advice on how to handle the crisis, Sherwood says having a diverse, quality portfolio is the way to go. And relax.

"Every five years, 10 years, there will be some circumstance out there that will happen and your money will take a huge drop, and you'll panic and call me and think your world is coming to an end, as usual," said Sherwood. "I've been in this industry 20 years — it happens over and over again.

"What you're feeling right now is the emotion of the market. But long term, you're fine. Long term, it's a good time to be buying right now — that's what I'm doing."

A total of 2,255 readers participated in the poll, including 130 Canadians.

Oceans no 'dumping ground': Jean

ENVIRONMENT The Queen's representative in Canada was in Halifax yesterday, pleading for the world to stop treating the oceans like "a dumping ground."

Michaëlle Jean

"The sea is part of my personal landscape," said Governor General Michaëlle Jean, as she kicked off an ocean science conference.

Jean spoke of her native Haiti, bordered by the Atlantic and the Caribbean.

"This country is made up of every hope we cherish, every dream we share," Jean told the 200 or so people gathered.

"One of those hopes, one of those dreams, one of those projects ... is to ensure the integrity of our ecosystems of which the sea is a vital part," Jean said. METRO CANADA

Quebec **Car Free Day**

CHRISTINNE MUSCHI/REUTERS

Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe, centre, participates in World Car Free Day in Montreal yesterday. The city closed a large area of downtown to traffic from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

N.S. bust nets $7.5M worth of hash oil

HALIFAX Twelve people are in jail and three-quarters of a ton of hash oil worth as much as $7.5 million has been seized after a late-night drug bust on the coast of Eastern Shore.

RCMP say a boat they believe sailed from the Caribbean was unloading the drugs early Sunday morning when police raided the operation.

"It's four in the morning, you're sailing your ship ... and to find a 5,000 ton warship very close with guys in black suits jumping on your boat," said Cmdr. Bob Auchterlonie of the HMCS Fredericton. "To say 'surprised' would be a bit of an understatement."

haul

- In total, 750 kilograms of hash oil bound for central Canada was found.

The RCMP said the men, who appeared in court yesterday facing various drug charges, have ties to an organized crime group. Intelligence gave police warning about the drop-off about a week beforehand.

Three boats and six vehicles were seized, but no weapons were found.

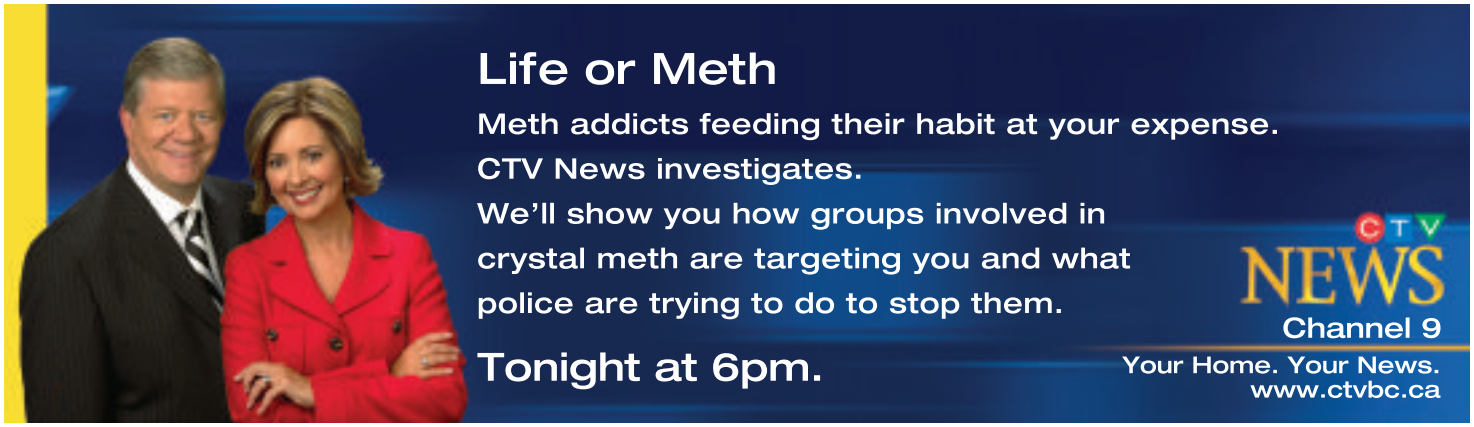
Police would not put a dollar value on the haul, but three hash users contacted by Metro said a gram of hash oil typically sells for $10. That puts the value of the seized drugs at up to $7.5 million.

One source said the oil is rare in Nova Scotia because it is complex and difficult to make. METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

TAINTED MILK Ottawa has expanded how many imported products will be monitored for tainted Chinese milk ingredients, but initial testing of infant formula has discovered no problems, the government said yesterday.

BUST A plantation of 40,000 marijuana plants has been discovered by police in a cornfield in eastern Ontario, CBC News Online reports. The Ontario Provincial Police described the bust as "the largest in Canada's history." METRO NEWS SERVICES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Election 2008

Uncle Sam and the bridge to nowhere

National**Report**

The state of the American union? You don't want to think about it. But as Canadians, we have no choice.

Wall Street? A basket case. Weapons of mass destruction all over the place.

Deficit and debt? Off the charts.

Housing market? Shambles.

Dollar? Falling.

Energy dependency? Worse than ever.

Global reputation? The pits.

Quality of presidency? A lead candidate for worst in history.

War and peace? Iraq, Afghanistan. Osama still at large.

Culture? Increasingly trashy.

Sarah Palin, John McCain's Veep pick, keeps talking about the bridge to nowhere. She might be on to something.

With George W. Hopeless as president, we knew their public sector was being turned into a wreck. Now we're discovering that the financial titans of the private sector are darn near in the same league.

Canadians who like to think we do things better up here will be feeling vindicated. We are spared the aforementioned afflictions. But there are obviously other things to be considered, starting with the pocketbook. The United States has been our bridge and if it's collapsing the consequences will reverberate loudly.

What to do? First is to realize that our days of wholesale dependency on the United States are over. Forget about that old-styled bilateralism. The loosening of the bonds is already underway. For the first time in a century our exports to the U.S. are steadily diminishing. The border is not disappearing as John Turner once predicted. Washington's security paranoia sees it being ramped up. Presidential candidates are bashing NAFTA.

Canada has come of age, is less colonially minded, is greatly empowered by its energy resources. Huge new markets are out there. It's time, finally, to get the eggs out of one basket.

As it has in the past, America will eventually get back on its feet. But unlike the last half-century, when it had no challengers to its paramountcy, a new megapower, China, is emerging. The old order, as we knew it, will never return.

Given our economic dependence on the U.S., that's a danger. But it's also an opportunity. A chance to be less beholden, to diversify, to build new bridges, to chart our own way.

Lawrence Martin is a Globe and Mail correspondent and author who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Riding: Vancouver Central

Liberal Hedy Fry has presided over the riding since she defeated then incumbent prime minister Kim Campbell in 1993. Sixty-six per cent of Vancouver Central's riding are renters and among the most educated in Canada.

Hedy Fry
AGE: 67
PARTY: Liberal
POSITION: Physician
"It is simply irresponsible to ignore scientifically based proof of the efficacy of harm-reduction programs like (Insite) and base public policy on ideology alone…"

Lorne Mayencourt
AGE: 51
PARTY: Conservative
POSITION: Politician
"… Stéphane Dion's Green Shift carbon tax is confused, misguided and cannot be supported."

Adriane Carr
PARTY: Green
POSITION: Activist
"A carbon tax is effective because it is an economy-wide measure that puts a value on our atmosphere by setting a price to pay for polluting it."

Michael Byers
AGE: 42
PARTY: NDP
POSITION: Author and UBC professor
"Metro Vancouver's latest annual homeless figures include 94 homeless children. In one word, it's unconscionable…"

MARIA COOTAUCO/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

PLATFORM Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion is asking Canadians to trust him with a campaign promise to take $40 billion from their pockets in the form of a carbon tax and give it back in tax cuts. That pledge is at the heart of the Liberals' election platform unveiled yesterday, a strategy that attempts to woo voters with new spending programs and tax cuts totalling $55 billion over the next four years. But Dion gave his word that his party's Green Shift strategy would be revenue neutral. Despite ambitious multibillion-dollar campaign promises, Dion insisted a Liberal government would balance the books.

PROPOSAL Conservative Leader Stephen Harper played the law-and-order card, seeking to tap into Canadians' fear of gang violence and street crime by proposing a crackdown on youth offenders. Under his proposed law-and-order legislation, for the first time in modern Canada judges would have the option to sentence youths aged 14 and older to life in prison if they are convicted of first-degree or second-degree murder. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

21 days remain until the 2008 Canadian federal election

Saturn's rings may be older than thought: Study

Saturn's rings may be more massive and older than previously thought, researchers said yesterday. Findings to be presented at the European Planetary Science Congress in Germany bolster the possibility that the rings were formed billions of years ago. REUTERS

World/Business

Tourists seized in Egypt

Gunmen kidnap 19 people, including 11 Westerners

Masked kidnappers have taken 19 people hostage, including Western tourists, on safari in a remote desert border area of Egypt before whisking them over the frontier into Sudan, Egyptian officials said yesterday.

The kidnapping was the first of its kind in Egypt in recent memory, though Islamic militants have hit the country's tourist industry in recent decades with bomb and gun attacks that have killed hundreds.

Security sources said the kidnappers were demanding $8.8 million US to free the hostages, identified as five Italians, five Germans, a Romanian and eight Egyptians. They said there was no sign militant Islamists were involved.

"They have been kidnapped and they have been moved outside the Egyptian borders by four criminals who have kidnapped them," said Tourism Minister Zoheir Garrana. "This is a gang act (by) masked men."

Garrana told Egyptian television the kidnappers were "most likely" Sudanese.

There were contradictory reports about the fate of the hostages. Egypt's foreign minister, Ahmed Aboul Gheit, said at the United Nations that the tourists had been freed and were safe and sound, but officials later said that was not the case.

"It is premature to say they are released. The negotiations are still continuing," cabinet spokesman Magdy Radi said. Egypt's state news agency MENA also said talks were still under way, citing an unnamed official. REUTERS

Nearly 13,000 in hospital as China milk crisis grows

HEALTH The number of Chinese infants sick in hospital after drinking tainted milk formula doubled to nearly 13,000 and the country's top quality regulator resigned yesterday in the latest blight on the "made-in-China" brand.

Four deaths have been blamed on the toxic milk powder, which causes kidney stones and agonizing complications.

A total of 104 of the 12,892 hospitalized children were in a serious condition. REUTERS

Fears spread

- Brunei, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Bangladesh, Gabon, Burundi and the Philippines are some of the countries testing Chinese dairy products or pulling them altogether.

Floods 'Ruff' sailing in Thailand

SUKREE SUKPLANG/REUTERS

A woman takes her dogs to safety through flood waters yesterday in Thailand's Lopburi province. Flash floods have damaged rice fields in northern Thailand recently but it is too early to say how the main crop will be affected, officials say.

Business

Bailout doubts

Industry debates plan's viability

The planned $700 billion US bailout to shore up the battered U.S. financial system looked set to drag into next week as Washington lawmakers haggled over how exactly they could make Wall Street pay for its rescue.

Stocks and the U.S. dollar tumbled yesterday as emerging details of the plan left many players skeptical that the rescue — which would give the Treasury Department powers to buy up toxic mortgage-related debt from financial groups — would work.

"The big detail we want to know is how is the government going to buy these securities, and what they will pay, how that reverse auction will work," said Giri Cherukuri, head trader at OakBrook Investments. "And the big question is, 'Will this bring us out of the woods?'"

A day after America's last two big investment banks, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley, ended Wall Street's swashbuckling era by securing Federal Reserve approval to become commercial banks, all eyes shifted to Washington.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke start a second day of congressional hearings today to hasten approval of the bailout. REUTERS

CEO pay cuts?

High CEO pay is the hot issue as lawmakers propose buying up toxic mortgage securities and banks, whose executives are among the highest paid in Corporate America despite big losses.

Wireless the latest market to feel pinch

WIRELESS Tight debt and equity markets mean that newcomers to Canada's wireless sector could be delayed in launching services to compete with existing carriers, analysts say.

Obtaining financing to build a network could prove difficult because of the meltdown in the U.S. financial services sector, industry analysts say.

This could hinder newcomers from increasing competition, a key aim for the auction. REUTERS

In brief

ECONOMY Canadian retail sales inched up 0.1 per cent in July, their slowest pace since March, a sign that consumer spending is slowing due to high prices and the economy.

DEPARTURE Sallie Krawcheck, head of Citigroup Inc.'s wealth management unit and once a candidate to run the company, will step down from the company. It's not clear why.

APPOINTMENT Australia's Francis Gurry was endorsed as head of the World Intellectual Property Organization yesterday. He promptly suggested the body take a tougher stance on counterfeiting. REUTERS

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METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Your Money

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Solace in a recession

SmartCookies

smartcookies.com

With gas prices on the incline, the job market on the decline and signs of the real estate market softening, a feeling of discouragement is to be expected.

As times get tougher, reining in our spending and paying down our debt should be our first strategy when it comes to recession proofing. However, in the face of adversity, there is always opportunity. In true Smart Cookie style, we have chosen to focus on the silver lining of this black financial cloud. Below are some tips on ways you can capitalize on our current financial climate:

Stock Up On Small Cap Stocks

Drops in the financial markets may present opportunities for your investment portfolio and educating yourself around some of the best prospects for investment can be as easy as looking to the past.

Recent research by MZ Capital Management found that three years after the past nine recessions, small cap stocks outperformed large cap stocks by nearly 50 per cent. This comparison looked at the performance of the S&P 500, which reported an average return over a three-year period of 28.2 per cent versus 76.2 per cent for the Fama/French Small Cap Value benchmark portfolio.

Of course, before making any investment decisions, we recommend that you do your research, speak to your financial planner or someone you know who is knowledgeable when it comes to investing.

Get Onboard Cruise Travel

Even amid soaring fuel prices, the cruise industry has been offering competitive packages to entice North American travellers to get into cruise travel. If you are looking to get away, why not take advantage of one of these deals? Many cruise lines are even offering discounted or free airfare as well as the option for kids to sail free. A spokesperson at Expedia Cruiseship Centres says that cruising prices are at a three-year low, with current deals available for as little as $500 for a Royal Caribbean Cruise.

Renovation Jubilation

Although the assessed value of your home may not be as high as it was a year ago, now may be a great time to consider renovations. Sound crazy? In a softer economy, wait times on construction projects generally drop and trades people, who are more likely looking for work, are often willing to barter.

"... Home renovations and repairs are the one area where we are likely to see prices decrease instead of just freeze."

According to the Consumer Association of Canada, home renovations and repairs are the one area where we are likely to see prices decrease instead of just freeze.

Questions? E-mail smartcookies@metronews.ca.

Tune in Wednesday night at 9 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

Investing

Allan Small

How is the U.S. government's financial bailout going to affect the markets? Read this week's column at metronews.ca

Stocks: Risky business

MoneyMatters

Henry Choo Chong

choochonghcga@yahoo.ca

Q My wife and I have several thousand dollars invested in Guaranteed Investment Certificates. This will be used to buy our first home. GIC interest rates are low. I believe we can get greater returns in the stock market. Many stocks have historical returns of 10-15 per cent returns. My wife disagrees and wants nothing to do with them. Is this the right time to buy Canadian stocks while they are low? Vince

A These are very tumultuous times. Last week's stock market's rollercoaster ride is a reflection of uncertainty in the market. The U.S. financial meltdown has global implications are and not just restricted to North America.

Speculation in the current market is not for individuals that cannot afford to lose a large portion of their investment. With our so-called stock experts reeling and baffled, this may not be a place for an unsophisticated investor. Most stock experts agree, investors in the market should not panic to sell if they are in for the long-term. GICs are not exotic or adventurous as stocks but the interest is guaranteed and principal safe. If you need your savings in the short-term, the stock market is not for you.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, provides professional accounting and taxation solutions: choochonghcga@yahoo.ca.

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Money-saving tip

Going to the computer lab on campus can take a lot of time and printing there can be costly. Make printing easier and affordable by having an all-in-one printer in your room. **NEWS CANADA**

Student ¢ents

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

By the numbers

Drinking can have both financial and social consequences, a new reports shows.

Not only can tying one on get expensive, it can have serious social consequences. A U.S. report released in 2007, the result of four years of research, by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University revealed the following:

- 1,717 deaths from unintentional alcohol-related injuries in 2001, up 6 per cent from 1998
- A 38 per cent increase from 1993 to 2001 in the proportion of students injured as a result of their own drinking
- A 21 per cent increase from 2001-2005 in the average number of alcohol-related arrests per campus. In 2005, alcohol-related arrests made up 83 per cent of campus arrests
- 97,000 students were victims of alcohol-related rape or sexual assault in 2001
- 696,000 students were assaulted by a student who had been binge drinking in 2001

CONSUMERAFFAIRS.COM

No money? No problem!

Students can still have fun if they're broke: Experts

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

One way to have fun with your friends without spending money is to get together to play organized sports, such as flag football.

The weekend's on its way and you're looking for something to do. You open your wallet to find nothing but pennies and lint. What now?

To rephrase a rap song by the late Notorious B.I.G.: No money, no problems. Fun doesn't always mean you have to spend cash. There are various ways to fill your social calendar, possibly without dropping a dime. You just need to show a little ingenuity and keep your ear to the ground.

"Having no money can be a good thing for people who want to have fun, because it forces you to think outside of the box, to come up with new ideas," according to Sam Gruszecki, director of strategic initiatives at Meet Market Adventures, an event planning service for singles. "It's all about being creative, and if everybody's having fun, they appreciate it that much more."

Instead of throwing around your dough, you can try the following, according to Gruszecki: play board games in the park, build sandcastles on the beach, ferment your own alcohol, get people together for organized sports like flag football or build a birdhouse.

One of the best ways students can save money is to skip the alcohol and go for coffee with friends instead, experts say.

Even the arts can come cheap. Indie bands and budding actors often perform at local pay-what-you-can venues, a much more cost-effective way to see live theatre or music than paying more than $100 to see a big-name production. You'll find listings for these events in local free papers, and your local campus newspaper.

"There are a couple of key things you can do. Pick up one of those free papers that heavily cover the local entertainment scene — they're full of listings of things to do for people who have next to no money," says Chris McGrath, student affairs representative at the University of Toronto's Mississauga campus. "Early in the semester, there might even be some free festivals going on in your city, you can have a look around. Also check your campus paper for what's new: You can find out about any new clubs or organizations."

Students are getting wiser with their cash, says McGrath, and one of the best ways to save it is to not drink. He says that more often, in the interest of preserving their funds (and their livers), undergrads are opting to leave the hooch out of the fun.

"The average weekend for a student might run between $20-$40; it really depends on what they're doing though. Times have really changed. We're finding that students are getting wiser with their money," he said. "Booze is expensive. Pubs are rapidly becoming a kind of community centre for students, spaces where students are choosing not to drink. They might have a coffee and chat all afternoon."

"Having no money can be a good thing for people who want to have fun, because it forces you to think outside of the box."
Sam Gruszecki

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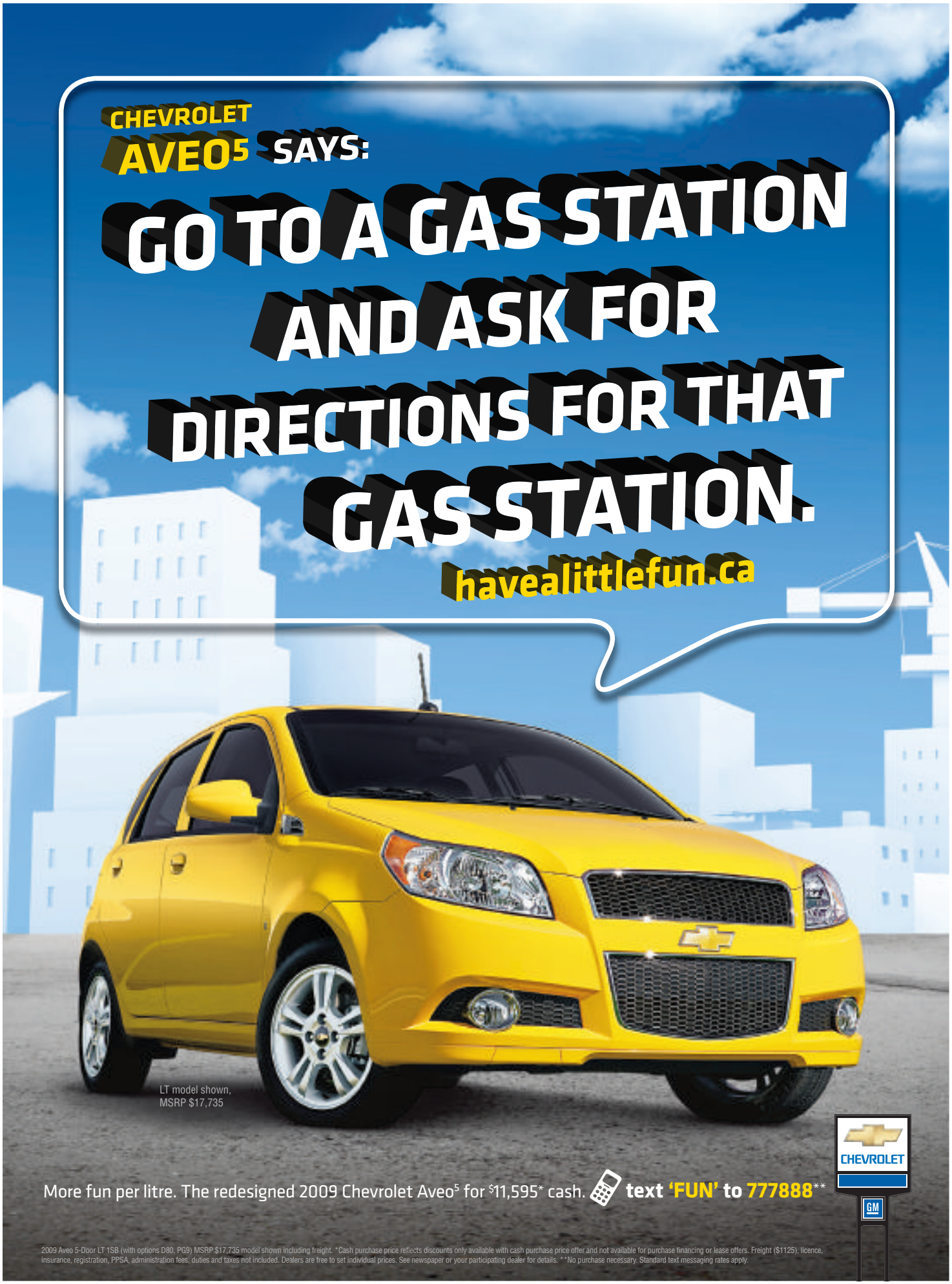
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Eagles' Westbook listed as day-to-day

Philadelphia Eagles head coach Andy Reid listed star running back Brian Westbrook as day-to-day with a strained right ankle at a press conference yesterday. Westbrook left Sunday's 15-6 win over Pittsburgh after suffering the injury on the first play of the second quarter. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

2010 World Cup mascot unveiled

The mascot for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa was unveiled in Johannesburg yesterday, with FIFA opting for a leopard named Zakumi, left, for the showpiece football tournament's first visit to Africa. The name is a composition of "ZA", standing for South Africa, and "kumi" translating into "10" in various languages across Africa.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

MONTREAL Vladimir Sobotka and Marco Sturm each tallied twice as Boston crushed Montreal 8-3 in the preseason opener for both clubs at Halifax Metro Centre. The Bruins broke open a 1-1 tie by scoring four times in the second period, including a pair with the man advantage.

OTTAWA Henrik Lundqvist stopped all 12 shots he faced in two periods, as the New York Rangers edged the Ottawa Senators, 2-1, in preseason action. Veteran Petr Nedved and Lauri Korpikoski lit the lamp for the Rangers, who finished last season as the fifth seed in the Eastern Conference.

TORONTO The Toronto Maple Leafs got off to a surprising start as they defeated the Buffalo Sabres 7-4 in front of their home crowd. Dominic Moore had two goals and Carlo Colaiacovo had a goal and an assist in the Leafs win.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

CFL has itself a messy week

YorkReport

Marty York
marty.york@metronews.ca

Matthews on a cold streak

• Don Matthews has lost eight of his past nine games as a CFL head coach. On Saturday, his Argonauts are in danger of losing their third consecutive game by 30 points. The Calgary Stampeders are 10-point favourites in Toronto.

The CFL has provided better football this season than it has in years, possibly decades, but this past weekend was less than winsome for the league.

In fact, it was downright disastrous. All four games produced negative story lines. Consider:

Friday night: The Tiger-Cats lost to the Winnipeg Blue Bombers in Hamilton after botching a snap on a short field-goal attempt in the dying seconds. Not a bad game, especially for greenhorn backup Quinton Porter, who'll likely replace Casey Printers — the CFL's highest-paid player — as Hamilton's starting quarterback.

Thing is, the Ticats made a terrible choice to black out TSN's game broadcast in parts of Southern Ontario, preventing the area's viewers from seeing an emotional farewell to CFL legend Ron Lancaster, who died last week, as well as tributes to Doug Flutie, Michael 'Pinball' Clemons, Mike Pringle and other luminaries inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame in Hamilton.

"Black out any game you want," said Mike Morreale, marketing chief for the CFL Players Association, "but not when we're honouring the men who made this league."

Saturday night: The Argonauts were thoroughly dominated by the Stampeders in a 34-4 rout in Calgary. Four measly points is inexcusable in the high-scoring CFL. And painfully dull.

Since Don Matthews resurfaced as the Argos' coach, his team has been outscored 73-13 in two games. Pathetic.

Saturday night: The Lions were beating the Roughriders in Saskatchewan when fans decided to pelt beer cans at the B.C. bench. The team left the sidelines briefly.

The CFL is investigating and likely will beef up stadium security. As well, it'll start penalizing home teams for fans' misconduct of this nature.

"Even (Lions receiver) Jason (Clermont is) embarrassed to say he was born and raised (in Regina)," B.C. kicker Paul McCallum said. "I don't know what the fans are thinking. It's a football game. We're on the sidelines trying to work. Can you imagine if I go to some guy's work and … start firing projectiles at him? Where's the common sense? I don't get it."

Sunday: The Eskimos fumbled five times and equalled the Argos' ineptitude by producing a mere four points against the Alouettes in Montreal's 40-4 slaughter.

Coach Danny Maciocia called his team's performance "terrible" and its worst since he joined Edmonton in 2002.

Also terrible was the fact the game was aired on TSN2, which isn't carried by English Canada's largest cable distributor, Rogers.

Mind you, considering what a fiasco this mismatch was, perhaps depriving so many viewers from watching it was the most positive development for the CFL on the weekend.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

Canucks scrape out win in shootout

NHL Jason Krog and Kyle Wellwood each scored goals in the shootout as the Vancouver Canucks edged the Edmonton Oilers 4-3 in the first game of the preseason for both teams.

The Oilers held one goal leads three different times during the game, but Victoria's Dan Gendur tied the contest at 14:23 of the third period to send the game to overtime.

Jeff Cowan and Mattias Ohlund also scored for the Canucks, who were just one for seven with the man advantage but managed to kill seven of eight Edmonton powerplays.

Canucks goaltender Corey Schneider was named first star after stopping 33 shots in addition to the pair of saves he made in the shootout. Vancouver and Edmonton will square off again tonight with the Canucks playing host this time around. Highly touted rookie Cody Hodgson will make his preseason debut as will fan favorite Roberto Luongo.

SCOTT RINTOUL/METRO VANCOUVER

DAN RIEDLHUBER/REUTERS

Vancouver Canucks' Rob Davison (left) and Edmonton Oilers' Hans Benson share a disagreement during the second period of their game in Edmonton yesterday. The Oilers gave up a late third period goal and the Canucks capitalized winning 4-3 in a shootout.

SCOREBOARD

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Cleveland 4 Boston 3
Kansas City 6 Detroit 2
Tampa Bay 4 Baltimore 2
Oakland at Texas
L.A. Angels at Seattle

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Chicago Cubs 9 N.Y. Mets 5
Cincinnati 7 Florida 5
Philadelphia 6 Atlanta 2
Arizona 4 St. Louis 2

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 2:05 DH
Cleveland at Boston, 4:05
Kansas City at Detroit, 4:05
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 4:07
Oakland at Texas, 5:05
Chicago Sox at Minnesota, 5:10
L.A. Angels at Seattle, 7:10

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 4:05
Chicago Cubs at N.Y. Mets, 4:10
Florida at Washington, 4:10
Cincinnati at Houston, 5:05
Pittsburgh at Milwaukee, 5:05
Arizona at St. Louis, 5:15
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 7:10
Colorado at San Francisco, 7:15

CFL

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Calgary	8	4	0	16
Saskatchewan	8	4	0	16
Edmonton	7	5	0	14
B.C.	7	5	0	14

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	8	4	0	16
Winnipeg	4	8	0	8
Toronto	4	8	0	8
Hamilton	2	10	0	4

WEEK 14
FRIDAY'S GAME
Edmonton at Winnipeg, 5
SATURDAY'S GAMES
Calgary at Toronto, 4
Hamilton at B.C., 7
SUNDAY'S GAME
Saskatchewan at Montreal, 10

NFL

WEEK 3
LAST NIGHT'S RESULT
San Diego 48 N.Y. Jets 29

New Orleans star out for 3-6 weeks

SHOCKEY New Orleans tight end Jeremy Shockey will undergo sports hernia surgery this week, keeping the Saints' new offensive target out three-to-six weeks, the team confirmed yesterday.

Shockey picked up the injury Sunday against the Denver Broncos.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Five-star babies?
Australian fertility specialists aim to ease the stress out of making babies by combining their clinic with a five-star luxury resort, complete with a spa and masseurs. REUTERS

Health

Drink fewer...

One soft drink a day — even the sugar-free kind — jacked up blood pressure risk by 18 per cent, according to a 2007 study published in Circulation. Its author, Harvard Medical School instructor Ravi Dhingra, says the high caramel content in some soft drinks may promote blood vessel inflammation, which in turn increases blood pressure. High caffeine and taurine levels in energy drinks are also known to elevate heart rate. BEST HEALTH MAGAZINE/BESTHEALTHMAG.CA

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Monkeying around politics

The J Spot

Election 2008

In the jungle, female chimpanzees never rise to power. Which is why the current rise of female politicians like Hillary Clinton, Sarah Palin to the south and Elizabeth May here at home is so fascinating.

Before you think I'm trying to put lipstick on a monkey or implying that any of these women are apes, hear me out.

Sarah Palin

According to Dr. Frans De Waal, noted primatologist author of Our Inner Ape, when you're a chimpanzee, achieving power is all about sex. "A male can increase his reproductive success by having access to as many mates as possible," De Waal tells me over the phone from Atlanta, Ga. where he is professor of primate behaviour at Emory University. "It's not the same for females. Because they can only have one baby every six years, promiscuity doesn't increase her chances for reproduction."

But while female chimps do not rise to power, female bonobos on the other hand rule collectively. They band together to dominate males.

For woman to be successful they need to have female support, says de Waal. With someone like Hillary Clinton, who is past her reproductive years, this is easier as she is no longer competition to younger women still needing access to males to reproduce.

"(Republican vice-presidential nominee) Sarah Palin surprises me because of her age," says de Waal. "I'm curious to see what will happen. My guess is that women will see her as competition if men find her sexy."

When I wonder what he makes of Green Party leader Elizabeth May's recent power coup here in Canada muscling her way into the leadership debate, de Waal says this was probably tolerated because ultimately, she is not seen as a threat.

It will be interesting to see how the increasing number of women on the power playing field will play out. When males, be they chimps or men, compete for power their body language conveys physical dominance. They stand tall and puff their chests out. How is that going to work with a female politician next to you?

"When [Democratic vice-presidential nominee Joe] Biden debates Palin, will he use his seniority and experience to humiliate her?" wonders de Waal. "As a society, we don't generally approve of older men humiliating younger women so will he have to be nicer to her than he would a male politician?"

According to the laws of the jungle, it may not fly.

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

Surgery is afoot

Cosmetic procedure on feet

CELIA MILNE
for Metro Canada

Are you longing for a pair of high-heeled, pointy-toed boots for fall? Wish you had Sarah Jessica Parker's slender tootsies?

Use common sense to figure out whether those sexy boots in the store window are realistic for you.

Foot surgeons, especially in the U.S., are reporting that women will go to extreme lengths to get their feet into glamorous boots and shoes.

"They will deal with the pain afterward. They want to wear that shoe."
Dr. Donald Bohay

The most radical operations are toe shortening, foot narrowing, toe amputation and injecting silicone into the ball of the foot to add more padding.

Orthopedic surgeons generally don't do foot surgery unless the patient is in pain or can't function properly, but that doesn't stop some women from asking for purely cosmetic foot surgery. "Patients really want it. They will deal with the pain afterward. They want to wear that shoe," says Dr. Donald Bohay, a spokesperson for the American Foot and Ankle Society and an orthopaedic surgeon in Grand Rapids, Mich. "We don't operate willy-nilly, we want to make sure the benefit is worth the risk."

The problem is, he says, is "to make the foot prettier, you make it worse."

Risks of foot surgery include infection, nerve injury, pain, deformity and swelling that can last as long as six months. "It doesn't make sense to put yourself at risk for something that is cosmetic," says Dr. Bohay.

Dr. Bohay has had women ask him to shorten one of their toes because their feet look bad in sandals. He always says no to cosmetic foot surgery, but fears another health-care practitioner will eventually say yes. "If someone wanted it badly enough, they could find someone to do it. It wouldn't be right, but they could find somebody."

In Canada, says Dr. Johnny Lau, president of the Canadian Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society, the problem exists but is less prevalent. "It's done in the U.S. — shortening toes. I get people walking in occasionally (asking for the operation), but it is more common for Americans." Dr. Lau — like other foot and ankle surgeons — only operates on people who are in pain or who can't function properly. "I do turn people away," says Dr. Lau, who is an orthopaedic surgeon at University Health Network in Toronto.

Dr. Lau is an advocate of designing shoes that fit the majority of the population, with wider toe boxes, for instance.

JUNKO KIMURA/GETTY IMAGES

The shoes of actress Sarah Jessica Parker, who is famous for wearing the type of glamorous shoes and boots some women get cosmetic surgery to fit into.

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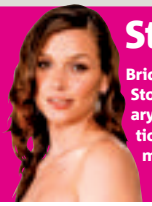
Dr. Watson goes to the Law

Jude Law is set to star in Sherlock Holmes as Dr. Watson. The actor is reportedly being lined up to appear opposite Robert Downey Jr. in Guy Ritchie's new movie based on the fictional detective. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

Entertainment



Stone's new love

Bridget Moynahan has been cast on Eli Stone as a love interest for the visionary title character. Thus far, the duration of Moynahan's run on the sophomore drama is unclear. TVGUIDE.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Mamma Mia! rocking at No. 1

MOVIES The summer smash Mamma Mia! logged a third consecutive weekend atop the international box office as its total raced to $334 million.

The ABBA-inspired romantic musical earned $14 million from 48 markets in the latest frame. Including its North American take, its worldwide total stands at $475 million.

The Angelina Jolie thriller Wanted finished at No. 2 with $11.6 million from 34 markets, including a first-place $7.7 million bow in Japan. Its foreign total rose to $172.1 million.

The Hollywood satire Tropic Thunder tallied $8.1 million from 26 markets, finishing first in the U.K. ($4.3 million), Germany and Austria. Its overseas total stands at $29.1 million. **REUTERS**

Santogold takes control

Former music industry insider blends rock, new wave, punk on debut

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

For most people in the music industry, working at a major label with other bands is about as close as they'll come to rock 'n' roll glory. But, Brooklyn-based Santi White, a former A&R executive for Epic records, wouldn't settle for making other acts famous, she wanted to be in the limelight herself.

"I knew I had to do something more creative," says White, who plays under the moniker Santogold. "I didn't have the stomach for all the corporate political bulls–t. I started to get sick every time I walked into the Sony building."

WARNER B MUSIC PHOTO

Santogold's self-titled debut was released in Canada last week.

With the daily grind getting to her, White did the next logical thing for a music industry insider — she wrote her own album.

While her immense talent is the main reason everyone's talking about her debut self-titled disc, it helped that she knew the ins and outs of the music business. "It gave me the experience to know when to put my foot down," she says. "It enabled me to take control of my own project on many different levels, but while it's a lot more fun, it's way harder being on the other side. You don't get to leave the office at 6 p.m. every day."

Santogold's not complaining about her round the clock gig, it's just that she's one of the busiest new performers around.

There's a good reason the artist is in such high demand — by blending high energy indie rock, new wave and dance punk, White's created one of the most infectious rock records of the year. There's the intense club-ready Creator, which combines talkish vocals and wild electronic background noises, and the Stokes-meets-Tegan and Sara opener L.E.S. Artistes, but while the sounds are varied, the album's theme, which is generally about the need for the less fortunate to speak their mind, unifies the record.

"I write about things that are relevant to me, and it's impossible not to be influenced by the current social and political climate that is more than disturbing," she explains.

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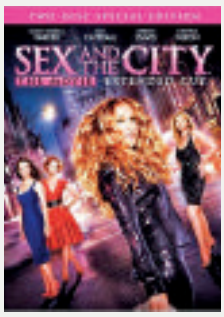
DVD picks



Sex and the City

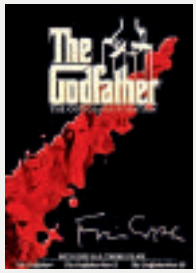
Paramount
Director: Michael Patrick King

SEX AND THE CITY smartly picks up the threads the HBO television series left dangling when it signed off four years ago.

All the main players are back: writer Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker), sex-crazed Samantha (Kim Cattrall), sunny Charlotte (Kristin Davis) and Mensa-minded Miranda (Cynthia Nixon). They're now mature women in their 40s (and beyond), negotiating the rocky shoals of life after singlehood.

Oh, there's oodles to ogle — designer Patricia Field supplies upwards of 300 outfits — and there's even some sex. But SATC is more than just a fan dance around the heavy breathing and rampant consumerism. Serious life issues being worked on result in a chick flick that's as satisfying as a steak and as much fun as a box of chocolates.

The two-disc set extends the film by 12 minutes, with commentary by director Michael Patrick King. There's also a digital copy of the movie, deleted scenes, a "conversation" between Parker and King, and a featurette about the film's fashions.



The Godfather: The Coppola Restoration

Movies: The Godfather, The Godfather II, The Godfather III
Paramount
Director: Francis Ford Coppola

IF YOU THOUGHT there wasn't much more to be said about Francis Ford Coppola's master chronicle of Mafia padrino Don Corleone (Marlon Brando) and his brutal family, here's an offer you can't refuse. There's a whole disc of fresh material in this five-disc (four discs in Blu-ray) set, and it's good stuff.

Most of it is devoted to appreciation of The Godfather's vast influence on popular culture and also to the painstaking restoration project.

The Coppola commentaries and disc of extras from the previous DVD boxed set are also included, so you get the extra scenes and other valuable Godfather treasures.

It is hard to overstate the quality of the acting, directing and storytelling for the first two Godfather chapters. Even the lamentable Godfather III, which was rushed into release in 1990 with a half-baked story and incomplete cast, deserves another look, if only to tie up the loose ends surrounding Al Pacino's Michael Corleone, the quiet soldier turned ferocious mob boss.

This is also a good time to make the jump to Blu-ray if you've been debating the switch. The sharpness and colour fidelity are good to the last speck.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Judge sides with Hari Puttar

IN COURT A court in Delhi, India, has rejected a lawsuit filed by film studio Warner Bros. against the makers of a Bollywood film, Hari Puttar, BBC News Online reports.

The makers of the blockbuster Harry Potter films said the title of the Indian movie was too similar.

The the court said Warner Bros. could have brought the case three years ago and said readers could easily distinguish Hari Puttar from Harry Potter. The court decision means the film can now be released in India.

Mirchi Movies, the makers of the Bollywood film, said Hari Puttar had no connection with the Harry Potter movies, that Hari is a popular Indian name, and Puttar means "son" in Hindi and Punjabi.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

HineSight

Anne Hines

IN TOMORROW'S METRO

JAMES HETFIELD/GETTY IMAGES

James Hetfield rocks out as lead singer of Metallica.

Metallica, Run-DMC up for Hall of Fame

Hip-Hop group Run-DMC, heavy metal band Metallica and musician/songwriter Bobby Womack are among nine nominees announced yesterday vying for five spots in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Guitarist Jeff Beck, disco and R&B band Chic, rock 'n' roll singer Wanda Jackson, doo-wop group Little Anthony and the Imperials, rock band the Stooges, and the California funk band War were also nominated.

Artists become eligible for the Hall of Fame 25 years after the release of their first single or album and are represented in an exhibition at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio.

More than 500 music industry professionals will choose five of the nominees for the 24th annual induction on April 4 in Cleveland. The inductees will be announced in January.

REUTERS

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Downey to direct Stiller

Robert Downey Jr. is set to direct Ben Stiller in a film about conjoined twins. The actor wants to make the movie in a bid to give Stiller the chance to win the Oscar he craves. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

ABOVE: Supporting the Gift of Time Canucks Place gala reception with a generous donation are Montecristo Jewellers' Pasquale Cusano and daughter Marcella.

ABOVE: Paris in the Fall guests get a warm welcome to the Skoah store location from manager Martine Yen, left, and Michelle Lee.

ABOVE: Sarah McLachlan, centre, greets guests at the Sonoma wine event alongside Outreach Program assistant Craig Shervey and manager Ann de la Hey.

Too Good to be true

Is it possible that Vancouver news legend Bill Good is just too Good to be true? The CTV/CKNW newsman and talk-show superstar has been a hero of mine ever since my university days, so I may be a bit biased. But nonetheless, the man behind the mic was the toast of the town last week as the A Very GOOD Night celebrity roast was held in his honour at the Bayshore.

Problem is, Bill's a real pro, having learned the business from his father, and just too damn nice of a guy — which means that fellow media personalities and VIP roasters couldn't fall back on the usual bag of barbs and insults. Even politicians, who are never at a loss for words, joined the romp down memory lane to make this a star-studded night to remember — all in honour of a man with so much talk-show savvy and community cachet, that he still leaves them speechless. Congrats Bill — may you ride the airwaves of success for many more years to come.

And speaking of success, there's a long list of shout-outs this week to those folks behind several fundraising events. Check out photos of the action at the Chef Meets Grape/B.C. Wild Salmon event at the Rocky Mountaineer, the Skoah Paris In The Fall fundraiser to benefit Hopeful Hand, and the Canuck's Place Gift Of Time gala reception at Montecristo Jewellers.

Grammy award-winning singer/songwriter Sarah McLachlan also grabbed headlines at the Pan Pacific as she raised money for her Sarah McLachlan Music Outreach (An Arts Umbrella Project) that helped wrap up with week on a very "Good" note.

Cat calls? Submit your event at catherinebarr.com. She can also be heard on The Buzz 1410 AM Tuesdays at 4:30 pm.

Social Eyes
Catherine 'Cat' Barr
info@catherinebarr.com

LEFT: Music agent Bruce Allen, left, Wendy and Sergio Cocchia, of Absolute Spa and Century Plaza Hotel fame, and weatherman Marke Driesschen roast and toast the best of Bill Good at the Bayshore.

RIGHT: Premier Gordon Campbell and press secretary/former journalist Bridgitte Anderson are among the VIPs at the Bill Good Roast.

RIGHT: Gift of Time Canucks Place gala chair Sandy Elliott Ergas shows off the $30,000 Harry Winston watch up for auction at the Oct. 17 event.

RIGHT: Skoah owners Andrea and Chris Scott, left, host their Paris in the Fall fundraiser with Urban Rush personalities Fiona Forbes and Mike Eckford.

LEFT: Giving their best at the Bill Good Roast are Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan and fiancée Lynn Zanatta.

LEFT: After years of owning the airwaves, the hardest-working man in the news biz was roasted until he was well done. Congrats Bill Good.

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McElhone a go for man's role
Actress Natascha McElhone is to star in a new movie about pioneering doctor James Miranda Barry, a woman who pretended to be a man in order to qualify as a doctor. IMDB.COM

Unsteady Emmys falter from beginning to end

IntelleVision

NOT SO QUIET DESPERATION: "Love TV and fear the Internet." These were the words director Barry Sonnenfeld pronounced as the music cue rose up and he rushed through the conclusion of his acceptance speech at Sunday night's Emmy Awards after his win for the pilot of Pushing Daisies. They are not the sort of words you hear at a celebration of an industry that is healthy and confident and basking in what it knows for certain is its creative pinnacle.

The tone was unsteady from the start, from Oprah's surprisingly unsure delivery of her opening monologue to the misfired timing by the show's five hosts just after that, a shambling, awkward routine that that was obviously supposed to play like a parody of unpreparedness, but felt a lot more genuine the longer it rolled on. At some point, one of the five reality TV show hosts who tagteamed the night's emcee duties obediently read from the teleprompter, "These have not been easy times in the world of TV — or in the world in general." It was both true and utterly ridiculous — the industry falling back on its last reserves of self-importance to make their own crisis somehow equivalent to the financial and political anxiety dominating the headlines.

Mad Men ended up taking home just two Emmys, for writing and best dramatic show, and these will doubtless be spun as a groundbreaking victory for the show, creator Matt Weiner and its cable network home, AMC. The really substantial winners, however, were HBO, who took home a trough full of awards for its historical miniseries John Adams, and Tina Fey, whose wins as writer, producer and actress comprised a coronation of sorts; by the time you read this, comparisons to Mary Tyler Moore will already have arisen.

The star of the show wasn't Fey or any of the five hosts, but comedian Don Rickles, who ran roughshod over both the teleprompter and co-presenter Kathy Griffin, then came back to accept his own Emmy. He was a relic from a mostly bygone showbiz era whose unsteady appearance masked timing and delivery that were as sharp as ever, and made everyone else on the stage that night seem plodding and inept.

It was inevitable that politics would be conspicuous in an election year, and hardly surprising that they materialized mostly as shots at either John McCain or Sarah Palin. Tommy Smothers mounted the soapbox after accepting an honorary Emmy, massaging the fine self-regard in which Hollywood holds itself with a breathless rant in which he congratulated it for being outspoken and confrontational, and which included the dread, sophomoric phrase "speaking truth to power." If there was a Barack Obama joke anywhere in there, it must have been in some unbreakable code, woven into the breakneck time-signature shifts of Josh Groban's musical medley of TV show themes.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

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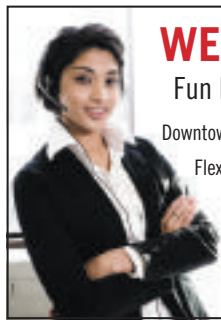
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Tire may have blown in jet crash

PROBE A plane crash which left ex-Blink-182 drummer Travis Barker and DJ AM with burns and killed four may have been caused by a tire blowout, BBC News Online reports.

Barker

The Learjet left the runway on take-off in Columbia, S.C., on Friday and crashed on a nearby road. A safety official said that a cockpit voice recording suggested that the crew tried to abort the take-off after hearing a probable blowout.

CBS wants more Flashpoint

TELEVISION CBS has renewed the Canadian crime drama Flashpoint for a second season after the show hit a season high Thursday with 9.7 million total viewers. REUTERS

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primetime 9/23/08	251	308	3	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	The Tudors "Episode 10"		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6	JOY	E! News	The Insider	The Biggest Loser: Families (N) (CC)				Fashion-Emmy		News (N)
	254	-	8	M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Mandarin News		Cantonese News (N)		Punjabi News (In Punjabi N)		Metropia
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	-	-	10	OMNI	Scrubs (CC)	According-Jim	Islam 101 (CC)		Jozi-H "Brother's Keeper"		The Daily	The Search	New Day
	252	336	11	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	House (CC)		90210 (N) (CC)		Kitchen Nightmares (N) (CC)		News (N)
	256	389	12	VI	Robson Arms	TMZ (N) (CC)	To Be Announced		Fringe (CC)		To Be Announced		News (CC)
	253	359	13	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Opportunity Knocks (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		NY-Hollywood	Friends (CC)	Reviews
	-	-	14	CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	90210 (N) (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15	CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	NCIS "Last Man Standing"		The Mentalist "Pilot" (CC)		Without a Trace "Closure"		News (N)
	287	379	16	NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	The Biggest Loser: Families (N) (CC)				Law & Order: SVU		News (N)
	602	568	19	W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Coleen's Real Women		Style by Jury	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked (N)		Maxed Out
	288	380	21	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Opportunity Knocks (CC)		Dancing With the Stars (Same-day Tape) (CC)				News (N)
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	291	383	27	PBS	Steves Europe	About-Money	Back Care Basics: Yoga		American Masters (N) (CC)				Happiness
	290	382	28	FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Not Cancer" (N) (PA)		(:01) Fringe (N) (CC)		News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
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	298	653	35	TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	90210 (N) (CC)		Privileged (N) (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36	WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two-Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	37	WPX	CW11 News at Ten		Two-Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	According-Jim	Frasier (CC)	Odd Couple
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news	502	390	23	NW	My Big Fat Diet (CC)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		Politics with Don Newman		The Hour
	500	500	33	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22	RSP	NHL Preseason Hockey Edmonton Oilers at Vancouver Canucks. (Live)					Sportsnet	Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet
	400	400	30	TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			In This Corner	2008 World Series of Poker		2008 World Series of Poker		SportsCentre
	411	457	49	OLN	Don't Forget Your Passport		Pilot Guides (CC)		Don't Forget Your Passport		Survivorman (CC)		Angry Planet
	410	403	54	SCR	Score Tonight		Hardcore Hockey Talk		Final Score	Final Score	Sports Rage		Final Score
	417	406	55	SC	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Pinks	Pass Time	Unique Whips		Low Life	SuperCars	Super Bikes!
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family	552	543	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Imp.	Prank Patrol	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50	TEL	George	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	American Dad	Chicken	Rick & Steve
	557	541	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	56	TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Beren. Bears	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Go, Diego, Go!	Treetown	Big Comfy
cable variety	268	354	5	KNO	Gardens	Recreat. Eden	Looking for Victoria (CC)		Looking for Victoria (CC)		Rage Against the Darkness		Rage Against
	575	583	20	CMT	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	CMT30	CMT 4 Tracks	Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Ed "Blips"
	570	580	24	MM	You Can Dance		The Shift		Pimp My Ride	Technical Diff.	disBand	Video on Trial	Video on Trial
	600	564	26	H&G	The Stagers	Green Force	Holmes on Homes (CC)		Dirty Business	Outside	Colin & Justin's Home Heist		The Stagers
	615	520	61	A&E	The Cleaner "Rebecca" (N)		The Cleaner (CC)		The First 48 (CC)		The First 48 (CC)		The Cleaner
	628	584	62	SPKE	CSI: NY "Raising Shane"		CSI: NY "Silent Night" (CC)		CSI: NY "Stealing Home"		CSI: NY "Heroes" (CC)		CSI: NY (CC)
	521	560	63	TLC	Dr. G: Medical Examiner		627 Lb Woman: Jackie		Mystery Diagnosis Dizziness.		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Medical
	616	522	69	SHO	About a Girl	About a Girl	The Best Years		Trailer Park	Trailer Park	The Shield "Money Shot" (N)		House (CC)
	620	523	70	BVO	Celtic Roots	Dick Dale	Law & Order "Called Home"		Without a Trace (CC)		The Broken Hearts Club ★★ (2000) (CC)		
	601	562	71	SLC	Plastic-Perfect	Matchmaker	Nearly Dead	In Laws	Rich Bride, Poor Bride (CC)		Plastic-Perfect	Matchmaker	Trading Sp
	520	505	72	DIS	After the Catch Health crisis.		Daily Planet (CC)		Smash Lab "CO2 Cop Car"		After the Catch Health crisis.		How It's Made
	522	506	74	HIS	NCIS "Dead Man Walking"		The Worst Jobs in History		Tony's Law (CC)		NCIS "Dead Man Walking"		Crime Stories
	627	528	75	SPC	Rabbit Fall	The Circuit	Stargate SG-1 (CC) (DVS)		Lost "Raised by Another"		Star Trek: Deep Space Nine		Star Trek
	294	650	97	TBS	The Office	The Office	Frank TV	Frank TV	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	What About Bob? ★★★ (1991) Bill Murray.		
	619	525	98	TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210 (CC)		Planet Soap	What	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	King	Family Guy
	603	561	99	FN	Top Chef (CC)		Top Chef (CC)		Iron Chef America (CC)		HEAT	HEAT	Top Chef
	626	547	57	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	S. Silverman	Jon Dore	Daily Show
	320	621	60	CEN	(6:30) The Recruiter (CC)		Portraits-Lady	(:45) Almost Heaven (2006) Donal Logue, Tom Conti. (CC)				The Invasion ★★ (2007) (CC)	
	581	566	101	MTV	From G's to Gents "Reunion"		MTV Live	After	Making the Band 4 (CC)		From G's to Gents "Reunion"		MTV Live
	261	394	102	V	The Aga Khan		MythQuest (CC)		The Aga Khan		Quantum Leap		Paid Program
	-	-	103	MUL	Matchmaker	Daughters	Officina Italian	Qui si Parla	In Germany	Euromaxx	Schauplatz	Euro. Journal	Patrol World

critics' corner

The Mentalist
"Psych" meets "House," in this new drama series. Aussie hunk Simon Baker ("The Devil Wears Prada") plays Patrick Jane, a protocol- and boundary-challenged consultant to the California Bureau of Investigation. His mad observational skills are so keen that he could pass for a psychic, and in fact, he has. Robin Tunney plays his boss, Dr. Lisa Cuddy — er, make that Senior Agent Teresa Lisbon, who's driven nuts by Patrick's antics but has to admit he's good at his job. 9 PM on CBS

American Masters
Oh, Brothers! It wasn't the only studio to make movie history, but Warner Bros. made more than its share. Its story is told in this new miniseries, which traces its origins to the day in 1923 when four brothers from Ohio incorporated the studio through its pioneering work in talkies, gangster films and lavish musicals — all the while reflecting the hopes, dreams and anxieties of the public in its output. Clint Eastwood narrates. 9 PM on PBS

Shrek on stage

Shrek: The Musical, based on the hit movie monster, has opened in Seattle and has proved so popular that producers are looking to take it to Broadway in New York. IMDB.COM

Celebrity Buzz

Scarlett: I'm not a statue

PEOPLE Scarlett Johansson wants everyone to know she's not a tourist attraction, PageSix.com reports.

The actress and fiancé Ryan Reynolds hit a New York night spot the other night "wearing matching bowler hats," a source said.

Even though Johansson was "dressed down in a black blazer and jeans," the doorman recognized her.

The source said that "the doorman asked to take a photo with Scarlett," but that she snapped, "I'm not the Statue of Liberty," before heading inside.

METRO NEWS SERVICE

Jada's in charge when it comes to discipline

PARENTING Jada Pinkett Smith has revealed she is the disciplinarian to her three children — because husband Will Smith is so easy-going, imdb.com reports.

The Hollywood couple has three children together, Trey, Jaden and Willow and the actress admits she is the one who has to get tough with them.

"He's (Smith) so lenient on that stuff. Daddy tends to (say), 'Yeah! Have chocolate cake for dinner! It's all right with me.' I'll come home and it's just, 'Has anyone had lunch?' 'Yeah, I had some Frosted Flakes!'" she tells People.com.

But the star admits it's not a tough regime in the Smith household.

"We're not strict, but we definitely believe it's a very important component for rearing children," Pinkett Smith adds. "It creates safety for them. They understand that they need guidance."

METRO NEWS SERVICE

celebrity brief

Delany avoids weight-loss 'disease'

PEOPLE Desperate Housewives actress Dana Delany does not worry about staying thin, because she has seen her skinny co-stars reportedly become hung up on losing weight, imdb.com reports. The actress appeared in the fourth season of the ABC show last summer and has now become a regular character in Season 5.

Delany admits that when she first joined the cast, she was taken aside by one of the wardrobe designers and warned not to fall prey to the pressure of staying slim.

"When the costume designer said to me, 'Don't get the Desperate Housewives disease' I didn't know what it was," she says. "But she said everyone loses so much weight when they come on the show. There is an unspoken competitive weight-loss thing. Even the actress who plays my daughter lost 10 pounds."

But Delany insists that she didn't fall prey to the "disease" and actually gained weight during her stint on set.

METRO NEWS SERVICE

Did Moss' partying ways cost her a boyfriend?

PEOPLE Model Kate Moss is "gutted" after reportedly splitting with rocker boyfriend Jamie Hince, imdb.com reports.

The 34-year-old has endured a rocky relationship with the Kills frontman and the model's reported party-loving lifestyle is apparently to blame for the split.

"Kate is gutted because she really loves Jamie. They had even talked about marriage and kids," a source tells Britain's Daily Star newspaper. "But she is not ready to change her lifestyle and probably never will. I doubt any man could tame her because that's who she is. Jamie told her he was fed up with her reluctance to stop partying and she just flipped. They just can't agree on it and it had become too much."

METRO NEWS SERVICE

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

celebrity briefs

Beckham not such a Posh shopper

PEOPLE Victoria Beckham buys her clothes from flea markets, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The former Spice Girl can't resist buying second hand clothes and admits her own designs are often inspired by her finds.

"I don't really go shopping any more, apart from the flea market I go to every Sunday. You can get some amazing vintage stuff there," said Beckham. "That's often where I get inspiration for my designs."

The 34-year-old, who has often been criticized for her slim physique, has also revealed she is eating and exercising more.

Beckham added she has learned to deal with negative comments and is "proud" of what she has achieved in her life.

"I don't really give a s–t what people think of me. I'm more grown up now and I've learned not to care so much what people say."

METRO NEWS SERVICE

Catherine keeps herself out of kitchen

PEOPLE Actress Catherine Zeta-Jones has a simmering secret — she is useless in the kitchen, imdb.com reports.

Zeta-Jones, married to actor Michael Douglas, confesses she can't cook even a simple meal without the aid of a microwave.

She says she is so bad at baking that she once nearly set her kitchen on fire.

"I'm a terrible cook," the actress tells Sky Movies magazine. "I can microwave chicken nuggets well … I actually burnt a pan once. There wasn't a fire, but it was smoking and I got a little scared. So that was the first and last time I tried to cook."

METRO NEWS SERVICE

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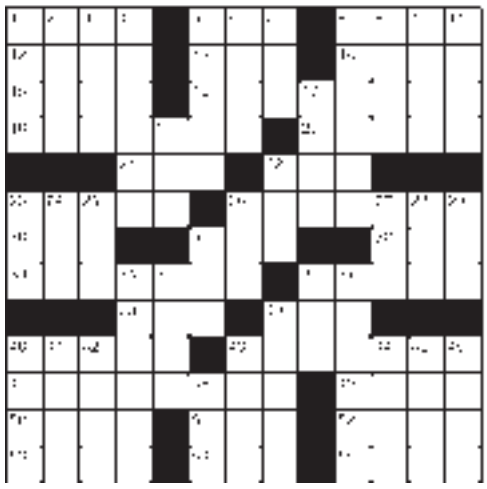


Crossword across

1 Ballet leap
5 Suitcase
8 Dad
12 On
13 Before
14 "American —"
15 New Mexican tribe
16 Do figure eights, e.g.
18 Slaloms
20 Analyze grammar
21 Rhyming tribute
22 "A mouse!"
23 Bolivian metropolis
26 "Have a —!"
30 "— Yankee Doodle ..."
31 Enthusiast
32 Eggs
33 Sovereign's representative
36 Slumber
38 Mouth part
39 Coloring
40 Reacted to fireworks
43 Emulator
47 Result of "once bitten"
49 Uninteresting
50 Campsite structure
51 Storm center
52 Cupid's alias
53 Probability
54 Foolish one
55 Anger

Crossword down

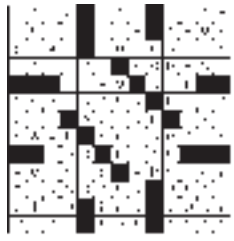
1 Satchmo's specialty
2 Needle case
3 Grip ice from a bucket
4 External parasites
5 Ecru
6 Curved lines
7 "Golly!"
8 Jasmine relative
9 Hebrew month
10 Cookware
11 Sheltered
17 Detail, for short
19 Wood-shaping tool
22 One (Ger.)
23 Actress Ullmann
24 Parisian pal
25 — -10 Conference
26 Aye canceler
27 Female deer
28 "Hail, Caesar!"
29 Shrill bark
31 Dandy
34 Votes into office
35 Carnival attraction
36 Morning star
37 "... nor a — be"
39 19th president
40 Director Preminger
41 Didn't pay yet
42 Rear
43 Wherefores' partners
44 Atmosphere
45 Online journal
46 Otherwise
48 Vast expanse

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	2			4		3		9
5				9	6			
			7					5
			6	2	4	1	9	
				7				
	6	7	1	5	3			
1					5			
			4	1				8
4		8		3			7	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



6	7	8	2	9	5	1	3	4
4	2	5	1	3	6	7	8	9
9	3	1	8	7	4	6	2	5
3	6	7	9	1	2	5	4	8
2	1	4	7	5	8	9	6	3
5	8	9	6	4	3	2	7	1
1	4	3	5	2	7	8	9	6
7	5	6	4	8	9	3	1	2
8	9	2	3	6	1	4	5	7

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day

COOK SMART FOR A HEALTHY HEART

Low-fat Barbecued "Ribs"

Meat doesn't get much fattier than pork ribs, but you can get the same flavour by substituting pork tenderloin and cut the fat by 90 per cent.

INGREDIENTS:
2 pork tenderloins (about 340 grams each), trimmed of fat
1 medium red onion, chopped
1 medium red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 cup ketchup
1/2 cup chili sauce
1/4 cup unsulfured molasses
3 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
2 tablespoons light brown sugar
2 teaspoons chili powder
2 teaspoons mustard powder
Hot red pepper sauce, to taste

METHOD:
1. Soak four 30-cm (12-in.) wooden skewers in water for 30 minutes. Butterfly pork, cut into "ribs" and thread onto skewers. Cover and refrigerate.
2. Place oven rack in the upper third of oven and preheat to 230°C (450°F). Spray a jellyroll pan with cooking spray. Spread vegetables in the pan. Roast, tossing frequently, until brown and tender, about 15 minutes.
3. Transfer to a food processor. Add ketchup, chili sauce, molasses, Worcestershire, sugar, chili powder, and mustard, and red pepper sauce. Puree. Pour into a saucepan. Cover and cook over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, until bubbling. Remove 1-cup sauce for basting and keep remaining sauce hot.
4. Spray barbecue grill generously with cooking spray and preheat to medium. Baste both sides of pork with sauce. Grill until cooked through, turning and basting every 4 minutes. Serve with the remaining sauce on the side.

SERVES 6

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Take the time to shoulder the burden of a bad choice. Failure will cause a loss of respect. An elder will have an excruciating episode.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Reduce unnecessary duties or you'll be wiped out. You'll have an impact on strangers. A difficult person will relax after an explanation is given.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't discuss money with a stubborn person. Normalcy returns after a new romantic attempt. Reveal your feelings to someone who is curious.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Adventure plays a part in the outcome of problems. A fantastic situation will open your eyes. A delayed call back disturbs the night.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Shaky emotions will force you to speak your mind. A distressed friend is going through a separation. Teach someone the benefits of friendship.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A loved one wants to argue every point. Remain calm when a disturbing crash is heard. Your passion creates unity at a gathering.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You'll surprise everyone by taking fearless action. You need hours to just putter around. An endearing buddy doles out kindness and love.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Verify a story before confronting a bad guy. Sneakiness gives you a reason to wonder. Mistakes are made because of pride.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Help others to avoid falling for a practical joke. Someone is missing due to illness. You'll be concerned about attention-seeking.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Confusion is the basis for a discussion. Don't walk away from a predicament. A phone call can give you comic relief.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Pamper yourself as soon as possible. An unwelcome invitation will be refused. You won't get flustered by anything.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Your mood and persona is dynamic. Emotional issues cannot be ignored. Surrendering to selflessness can make you psychic.

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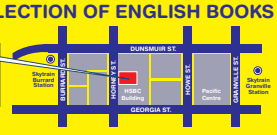

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